

MESSAGE FORM

ROUTING SLIP

TO: George A. Oliver, Jr.

Approved For Release 2004/07/08 : CIA-RDP80R01720R000600060031-2

FROM: O/DCI/SAVA

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DATE: 21 April 1970

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1. [ ] HAS ASKED ME TO KEEP A CLOSE, CONTINUING EYE ON THE EVOLVING MILITARY SITUATION IN LAOS AND TO MONITOR NOT ONLY ENEMY MOVES, CAPABILITIES AND INTENTIONS BUT ALSO THE PERFORMANCE OF AND SUPPORT GIVEN TO FRIENDLY FORCES.

2. IN THIS CONTEXT, I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR CANDID, COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT SUPPORT LEVELS WITH PARTICULAR RESPECT TO U.S.-PROVIDED ITEMS SUCH AS AIR SUPPORT. WE ALL RECOGNIZE THAT IN THIS REAL WORLD, NO ONE EVER GETS EVERYTHING HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE. HENCE I AM NOT ASKING FOR INVENTORY OF IDEAL REQUIREMENTS. I WOULD WELCOME YOUR VIEWS ON THE ADEQUACY OF PRESENT SUPPORT TO FRIENDLY RLG FORCES. FOR EXAMPLE, DO YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS WITH THE MIX, TYPE AND SORTIE LEVEL OF AIR SUPPORT.

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CITE DIRECTOR

3. WHAT WE MOST WANT FLAGGED ARE CLEAR SHORTFALLS IN MINIMAL SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS OR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCREASES WHERE THESE WOULD STAND A REASONABLE CHANCE OF MATERIALLY IMPROVING THE PERFORMANCE OR EFFECTIVENESS OF FRIENDLY FORCES OR MATERIALLY INHIBITING THE ENEMY. WE ALSO NEED TO KNOW IF THERE ARE MAJOR SUPPORT TYPES OR ITEMS NOT NOW DEPLOYED (E.G. GUNSHIPS, COBRAS, AC-47S, AC-119S, AC-130S) WHICH COULD MAKE A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE.

4. WE ALSO RECOGNIZE YOUR CONTINUING NEED FOR AIRBORNE COMINT SUPPORT. THE TWO C-130S NOW WORKING OUT OF UDORN SHOULD BE CONSIDERABLE HELP, BUT LET US KNOW IF MAJOR REQUIREMENTS ARE STILL NOT BEING SERVICED. WE ARE WORKING WITH THE TOP LEVELS OF THE DOD HERE TO FEND OFF SOUTH LAOS DIVERSION OF THESE C-130S AND TO POSTPONE THE 30 DAY CLAUSE IN THEIR ASSIGNMENT.

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MESSAGE FORM

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5. I WOULD APPRECIATE AN INITIAL REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE  
 THAT GIVES ME A BASELINE TO WORK FROM PLUS PERIODIC FOLLOW  
 UPS AS CONDITIONS OR CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES DICTATE.

END OF MESSAGE

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General R. E. Cushman, Jr.

DDCI

C/TBI

CFE

DDP

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George A. Carver, Jr.

C/SAVA

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